



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF SHILDON

FOR THE YEAR

1967



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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON

1967

Chairman of the Council: Councillor P. DOUTHWAITE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor R. MOYLE

Chairman of the Health Committee: Councillor R. MOYLE

Chairman of the Housing Committee:
Councillor W. EDWARDS, C.C.

Councillors:

D. B. S. ANGEL	J. FORSTER	K. NEWBY
Mrs. M. ASTON	H. FOX	W. NUNN
T. BENNETT	R. A. GOAD	F. PICKERING
W. L. CARNAN	J. HOWE	B. STEPHENS
MRS. M. DODDS	J. G. HUNTINGTON	R. SMYTH
	W. JACKSON	MRS. L. L. TROTTER

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):
J. M. HEGARTY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

K. ROBSON

Deputy Public Health Inspector:

G. R. SEWELL

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

A. HORNER

Clerical Assistant:

S. THOMPSON

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1967

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for 1967.

Vital Statistics afford a means of comparison between the Health of a district in the different years and with the rest of the country, and this year they compare favourably with the previous year and with the country as a whole.

The Birth Rate is slightly down. The Still Birth Rate is a little higher but with the exception of the last 3 years, is very much lower than all previous years. The Death Rate is about the same. There were the same number of deaths as last year 174. The population has again decreased—from 13,890 to 13,820. Of these 174 Deaths, well over half reached the allotted span. Sixty died aged 70-80: thirty three between 80-90 and three were over 90. A healthy record.

The Infant Mortality Rate is much higher than last year though well below the previous two years. There were 5 infant deaths as against three last year. When dealing with smaller numbers, as here, the rate does fluctuate a good deal. Of the infant deaths, three died under one week: one died aged three weeks and one aged four weeks. Again, of these infant deaths, three died from atelectasis due to prematurity and two from bronchopneumonia (one with a tracheo-oesophageal fistula). All died in hospital. I regret to have to report a maternal death—of a mother aged 30 years due to left ventricular failure due in turn to acute renal failure.

The number of deaths from Cancer of all parts of the body was 30—4 more than last year and cancer of the lung or bronchus increased from 11—12. This is following the national trend.

Deaths due to the conditions of the heart and vascular system numbered 67 as against 63 last year. This again is following the national trend. Diabetes caused 3 deaths, 2 last year. There were 8 from pneumonia—an increase of 3, but a good decrease in bronchitis—8 as against 13 last year. There were no deaths from accidents and none from suicide.

There was one death from Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary). One Pulmonary case was notified. This is the lowest ever with the exception of last year when a record was established—not one being notified.

No visit was made by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit during the year. Less visits will be made in future but the Unit will visit next year.

B.C.G. Vaccinations against Tuberculosis are carried out each year in the Senior Schools. The response continues to be very good as does the co-operation of all head teachers.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases totalled 119—well below half of last year. Measles accounted for 90 of these. There were 5 cases of Scarlet Fever (2 in 1966) and 15 of Whooping Cough (4 in 1966). There were no cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and no Dysentery.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis continues to be offered in the schools as well as in Clinics and General Practitioners' Surgeries. Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus is similarly offered. The response in the schools is good. Triple Vaccination against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus is offered in Clinics and General Practitioners' Surgeries. This should be carried out in the early months of life. Smallpox vaccination is now carried out in the 2nd year of life.

The Ministry of Health have not yet given their sanction to start the campaign against Measles by vaccination.

Home Helps were supplied to 176 homes during the year—156 last year.

The Meals on Wheels Service continues to supply 24 dinners twice per week. This is a much appreciated service. I would like to start a Meals from Neighbours Service in the new year before I leave. This can be a useful service when an urgent case requires dinners and the Meals on Wheels are fully booked up.

The Luncheon Club continues very successfully in supplying 20-25 people in each of the two premises.

The sessions for the Chiropody Service, run by the Red Cross, is carried on twice per week. 96 Sessions were held during the year affording 902 treatments. 237 Aged Persons received treatment and 2 Physically Handicapped Persons.

As my successor has been appointed, this **really** will be my last report and I would like to record my Council's and my own appreciation of all helpers in these services.

67 houses were built by the Council with State Assistance and 7 by Private Persons—making a total of 74 for the year.

The Warden Service for Garbutt Close with 37 bungalows has been very successful. Another set of bungalows with Warden Service was completed in Rowan Avenue about the middle of the year with 34 dwellings.

The programme for the Municipalisation of Dustbins has at present, approximately 2,000 Units in operation.

The Sewage Disposal Works continues to turn out an effluent which, on the whole, meets with the approval of the River Board. However, it is accepted that because of the lack of dilution in dry weather, and because of the growth of Newton Aycliffe downstream to the point of discharge, a higher standard than that of the Royal Commission will eventually be imposed. Accordingly, my Council have agreed that these Works will be discontinued and all sewage will be piped to the Aycliffe Disposal Works of Darlington Rural District. At present this proposal is awaiting Ministry approval.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION

The Registrar General's figures for the Area at Mid 1967, show the resident population as 13,820, this being a decrease of 70 in comparison with the previous year. The Comparability Factors for Shildon are:—

Births	1.03
Deaths	1.21

Live Births	Male	Female		
Number	93	81	=	174
Rate per 1,000 population				16.17 Standard.

Still Births:

	Male	Female		
Number	—	2	=	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:				9.133

Total Live and Still Births:

	Male	Female	Total
Live	93	81	174
Still Births	—	2	2
Rate per 1,000:			15.84

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year):

3	2	5
---	---	---

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births: 23.04
 Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births:
 24.63
 Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births;
 Nil

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births): 18.44

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births): 13.82

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births): 22.83

Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

Number of Deaths: 1

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 4.566

Death Rate:

Shildon Area 15.23 per 1,000 population

England and Wales ... 11.2 „ „

Deaths in Shildon Area, as per Returns to the Medical
Officer of Health 78

Deaths of Shildon Residents outside the area ... 96

Infantile Mortality Rate:

The number of Deaths of children under the age of one year is 5, representing an Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 23.04. Of these 5, none occurred in Shildon.

The Infantile Mortality figure for England and Wales is 18.3 per 1,000 Live Births.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

	Death Rate per 1,000 pop'n	Inf. Mort. Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n
Country Average (England & Wales) ...	11.2	18.3	14.8	17.2
Shildon 	15.23	23.04	9.133	16.17

Births in excess of Deaths:

1950	...	...	56	1958	...	...	98
1951	...	...	52	1959	...	...	74
1952	...	...	58	1960	...	...	34
1953	...	...	64	1961	...	...	101
1954	...	...	61	1962	...	...	104
1955	...	...	27	1963	...	...	58
1956	...	...	71	1964	...	...	74
1957	...	...	50	1965	...	...	102
				1966	...	...	63
				1967	...	...	43

Population Changes:

1955	...	...	...	...	14,160
1956	...	...	...	...	14,050
1957	...	...	...	...	13,960
1958	...	...	...	...	13,920
1959	...	...	...	...	13,910
1960	...	...	...	...	13,920
1961	...	...	...	...	14,070
1962	...	...	...	...	14,130
1963	...	...	...	...	14,020
1964	...	...	...	...	13,940
1965	...	...	...	...	13,910
1966	...	...	...	...	13,890
1967	...	...	...	...	13,820

Age Groups of Deaths in Shildon:

Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	Over 90	Total
—	—	—	1	1	18	20	30	23	3	96

Age Groups of Deaths Outside the Area:

Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	Over 90	Total
5	—	1	—	4	10	18	30	10	—	78

Causes of Death, 1967	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, Other	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	11	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	5
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	—	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	12	15
Coronary Disease, Angina	37	17
Hypertension with Heart Disease... ..	2	—
Other Heart Disease	4	7
Other Circulatory Disease... ..	6	9
Pneumonia	1	7
Bronchitis	5	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	1
Congenital Malformations	1	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	4	5
Total all Causes	93	81

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table of Cases as notified in the Whole District, set out in age groups (Civilians only)

Infectious Disease	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-61	61 & over	At all ages
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	1	7
Whooping Cough ...	—	2	6	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Measles ...	5	29	17	18	10	11	—	—	1	—	—	—	90
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS:													
1. MALES:													
(a) Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
(b) Non Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. FEMALES:													
(a) Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	31	25	19	15	16	—	—	1	2	4	1	119

TUBERCULOSIS

The following cases remained on the Register at the end of the year:

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males	77	9	86
Females... ..	58	15	73
	<hr/> 135 <hr/>	<hr/> 24 <hr/>	<hr/> 159 <hr/>

The number of known Tuberculosis Cases in the District represents 1·14 % of the population, an increase of ·03 % over the previous year.

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified during the year.

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1967

Immunisation against Diphtheria:—

202 No. — Primary Injections.

229 No. — Booster Injections.

Whooping Cough:—

180 No. — Primary Injections.

116 No. — Booster Injections.

Tetanus Injections:—

231 No. — Primary Injections.

234 No. — Booster Injections.

Smallpox Vaccinations:—

294 No. — Received Primary courses.

121 No. — Received Booster doses.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination:—

2 No. — Received Primary injections (Salk).

1 No. — Received Booster injection (Salk).

237 No. — Received Primary course (Oral).

117 No. — Received Booster doses (Oral).

All previous figures apply to children under the age of 16 years.

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1967—*continued*

B.C.G. Vaccination:—

- 107 No. — Children were Heaf Tested.
- 15 No. — Children were Positive.
- 87 No. — Children were found to be Negative.
- 87 No. — Children were Vaccinated.

The above B.C.G. figures apply to children attending school in the Shildon Urban District. Other Shildon children will have been vaccinated at schools outside the Shildon area.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Number of cases receiving Home Help at 1.1.1967	...	130
New cases received during year	... ..	46
Total number of cases provided with help during year	...	176
Cases terminated during the year	... ..	32
Cases receiving service at 31.12.1967	... ..	144

PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT

Area (in acres) including Eldon, Old Eldon, Mid- dridge and Brusselton	... ..	4,828
No. of inhabited houses in the District of which 74 were constructed during the year, 22 Con- demned/Closed and Demolition Orders served under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, 11 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. The tenants of such houses demolished being re-housed by this Council	... ..	4,779
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	... ..	£1,080
Rateable Value	... ..	£273,393

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Refuse Collection:

Domestic, Shop and Trade Refuse is collected throughout the area by regular weekly collection provided by the Council. The disposal of the refuse is done by controlled tipping at Sunnydale Tip in a most satisfactory manner.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA—

continued

Drains and Sewerage:

The drains and sewers continue to work in a satisfactory manner.

Rodent Control:

Private businesses and dwelling houses were treated as and where necessary—a charge being made to properties other than dwelling house property, and complete sewer treatments were carried out during the year. A Rodent Operator is employed by the Council for the purpose of carrying out this work.

The public continue to report promptly to the Council Offices any infestation of rats and mice being found on their property.

No. of premises visited	No. of baits laid
361	2,419

The number of visits made during the year on Rat Infested premises during which treatment was carried out being ... 1,623

Water Supply:

(a) The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality for the year.

(b) No contamination of the supply occurred in the Shildon U.D.

(c) The total number of bacteriological samples taken in the Shildon area during 1967 was 20.

(d) There are 4,972 dwelling houses supplied. There are no houses on stand pipes.

(e) The fluoride content for the area is F. O.1 p.p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA—

continued

Summary of Notices and work done in the Public Health Inspectors Department during the Year ended 1967.

1. Houses erected in area:

	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	67	—	67
(b) By any other Local Authority	—	—	—
(c) By private persons	—	7	7
	67	7	74

2. Closing and Demolition of Houses.

(a) Formal Action:

	No.
(i) No. of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action	15
(ii) No. of houses Closed but not demolished as a result of formal action	7
(iii) No. of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed	—
(iv) No. of houses in use as temporary accommodation	—

(b) Informal Action:

(i) No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above	—
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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA— *continued*

3. Reconditioning and Repair.

No. of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts:—

	No.
(a) As a result of informal action	58
(b) By owners as a result of statutory notice ...	—
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

4.

(a) Water, Food and Drugs:

	No.
Samples of water taken for Analysis (water samples are taken by the Durham County Water Board)	20
No isolated samples were taken by this Council as this is the function of the Durham County Council	—
Seizures of unwholesome food (voluntarily surrendered)	728
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis or found to be adulterated	—
Number of cases of food adulteration reported to this Council	—

(b) Precautions against Infectious Diseases:

Lots of Infectious Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	—
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	—

(c) General:

Number of new houses Erected during the year	74
Number of such houses Occupied during the year	74
Total number of Water Closets in the District ...	5,213
Total number of Ash-pit privies in District ...	58

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA— *continued*

MILK RETAILERS

There are in the District 5 Retail Purveyors who are supplying either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk.

Regular samples are taken for testing by the Durham County Council Weights and Measures Department who have reported satisfactory results during the year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, there are 2 slaughterhouses. The 2 slaughterhouses concerned are each attached to the retail shop for which they are used, and conform to the standards laid down under the provisions of the above Act, and have been duly licensed thereunder. All animals slaughtered have been subject to inspection which has amounted to 100%. A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained in the slaughterhouses throughout the period.

The slaughterhouses have also been inspected by the Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and have been found satisfactory.

The 2 slaughterhouses concerned are as follows:—

- (1) J. N. Percival ... 25, Church Street, Shildon.
- (2) J. Studham ... 49, Church Street, Shildon.

The total number of animals inspected during the year being:—

				Animals Slaughtered
Cattle	...	...	...	203
Sheep	...	...	...	432
Pigs	...	...	...	324

HOUSING

(a) The Council's Pre-War and Post-War Housing Programmes are summarised as follows:—

	No. Erected
1919 Act 	124
1930-1935 Act:	
North Eastern Housing Association, Newcastle. (Let by this Council) 	100

	No. Erected
Post-War Temporary Housing 	19
Post-War Permanent Housing 	1,035
Post-War Aged Persons Bungalows 	248
Post-War Flats 	58
(28 available for Old Aged Persons)	
Communal Centres 	2
Warden's Flats 	2

(b) Re-Housing:

During the year ended 31st December, 1967, 94 houses were let to the following groups, in accordance with the Council's allocation of houses Scheme:

	No.
Points 	59
Individual Unfit Houses... 	22
Medical Cases 	3
Key Workers 	9
Eviction Cases 	1
	<hr/> 94 <hr/>

(c) The number of dwellings built by the Council during the year was 67, 8 houses in Auckland Terrace, 24 houses Jubilee Field Estate, 33 Bungalows, 1 Communal Centre and Warden's Flat at Rowan Avenue, Jubilee Field Estate, Shildon.

HOUSING—*continued*

The allocation of Council houses is made on the following grounds:

(1) Clearance.

(2) Points.

together with serious medical cases. Special provisions being made to allocate bungalows to old people within the town itself.

Persons requiring housing accommodation, should complete the Housing Application Form, obtainable at the Council Offices, for inclusion on the following year's Housing List.

The number of applicants remaining on the Housing and Bungalow List at 31st December, 1967, were as follows:—

Applications	Type of dwelling required
127	Two and Three bedroom houses.
133	Bungalows.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 (Standard Grants).

The following is a summary of applications received under the provisions of the above Act, from January—31st December, 1967:—

(i) No. of applications received	...	...	...	73
(ii) No. of applications approved	...	...	...	69
(iii) No. of applications rejected	...	...	...	3
(iv) No. of applications withdrawn	...	...	...	1
(v) No. of improvements completed	...	...	...	52

HOUSING—*continued*

During the year 1966/1967, the Shildon Accident Prevention Society Team were placed second in the Northumberland and County Durham Cycling Proficiency Championship.

During this period, 68 children were trained in cycling proficiency as follows:

(a) First year.	38 No.
(b) Second year.	11 No.
(c) Third year.	8 No.
(d) Fourth year.	4 No.
(e) Fifth year.	3 No.
(f) Sixth year.	4 No.
	<hr/>
	68 No.
	<hr/>

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Regular visits were paid to the factories in the area and, in general, conditions were found to be good.

Finally, I would like to thank my Council for their kindness and courtesy during my time of office as their Medical Officer of Health, and to thank my staff for all their help and hard work during the last 11 years, also the officers of other departments for their co-operation at all times.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. HEGARTY,

*Medical Officer of Health,
Shildon Urban District Council.*

